

320 REF  
GERMAN INTERROGATION CENTER  
ENCLAVE MILITARY DISTRICT  
APO 29, U.S. Army

2853  
29 1475 401

INTERMEDIATE INTERROGATION REPORT (IIR)

PRISONER: MAJ. ERICH

DATE: 30 July 1945

Alias: SZKIPCZYK, Erich

Verbal request of A. C. of S., 1-2, 29th Infantry  
Division

2. REPORT:

a. Personal Data:

Born: 30 May 1913 at BEWALLNE (OBERSCHLESIEEN)

Occupation: Laborer until 1934

Land Police 1934-36

Schutz Polizei 1936-38

Party Affiliation: SA May 1933-September 1933

NSDAP Member 1937-45

SS Bewerber 1938, but claims he

was rejected due to non-Aryan appearance.

Attempted to join the Gestapo in  
March 1944 but was offered an opportunity to join the  
RSHD prior to acceptance into the Gestapo.

Accepted into RSHD in June 1944 with  
title of Kriminal Assistant and rank of SS Hauptsturmführer.

b. Introduction:

On 23 April 1945, the following personnel was detailed for  
guard duty at the bunker occupied by HITLER, in the Reichskanzlei, BERLIN:

HUFBECK, FNU, Kriminal Sekretar (SD)

KARNAU, Hermann, Kriminal Assistant (SD) (Now in custody  
of British)

MENGERHAUSEN, Harry, Kriminal Assistant (SD)

MANSFELD, Erich, Kriminal Assistant (SD)

LANZER (LANZ) SS Unterscharführer

Names Unknown, 2 SS Oberscharführer

Those men were instructed to guard two of the three exits  
of the bunker, the emergency exit (see accompanying sketch) and the emer-  
gency escape. The latter could not be used as an entrance; the door could  
be opened only from the inside. The third exit was through the Reichs-  
kanzlei. Usually there were two guards at the emergency exit and one at  
the emergency escape.

c. Alleged Disposition of HITLER:

On 27 April 1945, Subject states that he was on guard at  
the emergency escape from 1400 to 1700 hours. His post was inside a con-  
crete tower situated on the left of the escape. Mengerhausen, who had  
preceded Subject on guard at this post, had left his machine pistol in  
the tower and returned at 1600 asking Subject to hand the weapon to him.  
Mansfeld opened the iron window of the tower to hand to the machine  
pistol to him, he noticed Mengerhausen and three members of the Begleit Kom-  
mando (Hitler's Bodyguard) running out of the emergency exit.

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(Subject claims he later learned that these men hastened to close entrances to the area to prevent any spectators observing what was to follow immediately). A few minutes past 1600, MANSFELD left the tower and went over to the emergency exit to see what was happening. He went in through the exit where he met SS Sturmbannfuhrer GINTSCHE, personal adjutant to HITLER and immediately following GINTSCHE were two SS Hauptsturmfuhrers carrying a body wrapped in a blanket. Both legs were exposed almost to the knees, as well as a portion of the right arm. The rest of the body was covered by the blanket. Subject claims he recognized the boots as those of HITLER and that a portion of the black trousers, which color only HITLER wore there, was also visible. Immediately behind the men carrying the alleged body of HITLER, was SS Hauptsturmfuhrer JANSEN, who was carrying in his arms the body of a woman identified by Subject as that of Eva BRAUN. It was clothed in a black dress identified by MANSFELD as the one Eva BRAUN was wearing between 0200 and 0300 that same morning when she came up to the tower to ask for information about the shelling. Subject claims that he had seen Eva BRAUN on many occasions and that he was positive it was her body JANSEN was carrying. (Subject states he also knows Eva BRAUN'S younger sister but that the latter never came to this bunker.) Following JANSEN were (1) GOEBBELS, (2) General BURGDORF, Chief of the Personalabteilung of the Wehrmacht, (3) Reichleiter BORMANN, (4) SS Sturmbannfuhrer LINGE, Aide to HITLER.

MANSFELD claims that in the excitement of the moment, he remained a few minutes on the stairway leading from the bunker even though he had been ordered by GINTSCHE to return to the tower at the emergency escape. Just as he entered the tower, he saw thru an observation slit in the tower a huge column of black smoke coming from the direction of the emergency exit. A few minutes later, when the smoke had partly cleared, he could see two burning bodies, about 2 meters to the left of the emergency exit. MANSFELD claims he recognized the body of Eva BRAUN, and that he could recognize the other body as being that of a man but could not be certain it was HITLER'S. From time to time somebody poured additional gasoline on the burning bodies.

At 1730, MANSFELD was relieved of his post by KARLHAU and on his way to the emergency exit he recognized the remains of the still burning body of the woman. The other body was almost completely burned and no longer recognizable. At 1830, Subject went out to relieve himself at which time the bodies were still burning. Returning immediately after, he had occasion to pass through the corridor passing HITLER'S rooms. The doors were open and no one was present inside. At approximately 2000, SS Gruppenfuhrer RATTENHUBER, Chief of the Reichs SS, entered the guard room and instructed one of the SS Oberscharfuhrers to go to the Begleit Kommando Dienststellenleiter to request three men to bury the bodies. At 2500 Subject was directed to guard the emergency exit. Subject claims at that time the bodies were nowhere to be seen. Subject states he noticed a shell crater, 4 to 5 meters in front of the emergency exit door, had been partly covered. Subject is of the opinion the bodies were buried in the crater.

Subject believes that HITLER and Eva BRAUN were given shots by SS Obersturmfuhrer STILFEGGER, HITLER'S personal doctor, which caused their immediate deaths. This was rumored among the guards. Subject claims the bodies must have been disposed of between 2030 and 2300, 27 April 1945. Subject claims there is a possibility these events took place on the 26th instead of the 27th, but is positive it was not later than the 27th April 1945.

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3. REPORTS

During three preliminary interrogations the prisoner used every possible lie to cover up his SD activities at the Reichskanzlei. MANSFELD contradicted himself numerous times when he was cross-examined, and being made aware of the heavy penalty for avoiding the truth, the prisoner broke down.

It is the writer's belief that MANSFELD's final story is the truth, as he has been brought to the point where he talks freely and accurately.

